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THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" I have already submitted, Sir, that the scheme is under scrutiny in the Electricity Department and I said that it is not possible for me to say how long it will take. If the hon. Member is not satisfied with the answer, I cannot help it."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" Sir, if the Hon. Minister says that the Government are not in a position to say when the scheme will be completed, even though that answer is not satisfactory we will take it that is the way in which the Government function to-day and we have no quarrel with the Hon. Minister. But, when the Minister prefaces his reply with a statement that such questions are frequent in this House, it is to that particular statement that we take very serious objection, Sir, because hon. Members of this House are entitled to know when the particular schemes that have been sanctioned, or are under consideration, will be completed, so that people in the State could know certain things about them. When we ask for specific information there is no point in the Hon. Minister getting annoyed and saying that such questions are being asked again and again."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" May I appeal for a sense of humour, Sir."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" That sense of humour must be on both sides."

Libraries started by the Rural Welfare Department.

* 399 *Q.*—SRI P. VENKATASUBBIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Welfare be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of libraries started in the State by the Rural Welfare Department; and

(*b*) the number of such libraries in the Cuddapah district and the recurring expenditure incurred annually for maintaining them?

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" (*a*) 25 Firka Central Libraries and 674 Branch Libraries have been started in the selected areas in the State by the Rural Welfare Department.

" (*b*) One Central Library and 23 branch libraries are in the Cuddapah district.

The recurring expenditure incurred annually for maintaining the Firka Central Library and the Branch Libraries in the Cuddapah district is—

	RS.	A.	P.
1948–49	1,380	7	0
1949–50	1,598	14	0
1950–51	1,605	0	6
1951–52	1,637	3	0 "

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SRI P. VENKATASUBBIAH :—" Sir, may I know whether there is any proposal to start such libraries in the villages where the Community Projects are started? "

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" A separate question may be put, Sir."

SRI M. NARAYANASWAMY :—" Sir, will the Hon. Minister kindly say how much amount is spent over branch libraries and how much over district libraries? "

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" No separate account for such expenditure is maintained. The fact is this : The Rural Welfare Officer of the firka maintains the Central Library and for meeting the demands of branch libraries a cycle peon is engaged who will go round and distribute the books to branch libraries."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, in view of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that so many libraries have been started in the Madras State, may I know how many libraries have been started in the Chingleput district, for we do not see any library anywhere in the district. We had been going about the entire district during the elections but we never saw any library. Are they in their own houses? "

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" I will give the answer. In the Chingleput district there is one firka Central Library and 23 branch libraries. Wherever there is the Firka Development scheme, there is a central library."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Please let me know where it is? "

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" As a matter of fact, the question relates to the Cuddapah district and so, I can give an answer to the hon. Member only in a general way regarding Chingleput district; and if he wants any specific answer, the hon. Member may put a separate question."

SRI K. RAJAGOPALA RAO :—" I want to put certain questions in regard to Cuddapah district only.

" పల్లె ప్రాంతాలలో నివసించే ప్రజల అభిరుచికి, విజ్ఞానాభివృద్ధికి ఈ గ్రంథాలయాలలో ఉండే పుస్తకాలు అనుగుణమైనవిగా లేవని complaints వస్తున్నాయి. అందువల్ల మంచి పుస్తకములు ఆ గ్రంథాలయాలు సేకరించేటట్లు చూస్తారా? "

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" గౌరవ సభ్యులు అడిగిన ప్రశ్న చాలా generalగా ఉన్నది. పల్లె ప్రజల అభిరుచులకు అనుగుణమైనటువంటివి, చిన్న చిన్న విద్యార్థులు చదువుకొని విజ్ఞానాభివృద్ధి చేసుకొనుటకు ఉపకరించేటటువంటివి, అయిన పుస్తకాలను కొనినట్లు department వారు చెబుతున్నారు. అయితే ఆయా ప్రాంతాలవారి ప్రత్యేక అభిరుచులేమో నాకు గౌరవ సభ్యులు తెలియచేసినట్లయితే అందుకు అనుగుణంగా ఉండే పుస్తకాలను సేకరించే విషయమై పరిశీలించగలను."

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Sri V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, how many of these libraries are libraries of a mobile nature? "

The Hon. Sri S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" As I have already stated a central library is situated in the firka development area and the needs of all the villages in that particular firka will be made known to the librarian at the central place and the books will then be sent by a cycle peon to those villages once a week."

Sri V. CHIDANANDAM :—" Sir, may I know what is the policy that is adopted by the Government in starting these libraries? Is there at least one library for each firka? "

The Hon. Sri S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" Firka development schemes have been started in 25 firkas in 1946 and in these 25 firkas central libraries have been instituted. In 1950, fifty-four firkas were taken up for active work and in 1951 owing to financial stringency we could not introduce this scheme. If the financial position continues like this, we cannot expand it."

Sri N. SIVARAMI REDDI :—" అధ్యక్షా, కడప జిల్లాలో ఈ స్కీము క్రింద 600 లకు పైగా బ్రాంచి లైబ్రరీలు ఉన్నవని మంత్రిగారు శెలవిచ్చారు. అయితే ఈ లైబ్రరీలు ప్రైవేటు హవుసస్‌లో ఉన్నాయా లేక పబ్లిక్ భవనాలలో ఉన్నాయా? "

The Hon. Sri S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" గౌరవ సభ్యులు నేనిచ్చిన సమాధానాన్ని తప్పుగా అర్థంచేసుకొన్నారు. మొత్తం రాష్ట్రమంతటా కలిపి 23 సెంట్రలు లైబ్రరీలు, 674 బ్రాంచి లైబ్రరీలు ఉన్నవనే నేను చెప్పినాను. గాని, ఇన్ని లైబ్రరీలు ఒక్క కడప జిల్లాలోనే ఉన్నవని నేను మనవి చేయలేదు."

Sri T. VISWANATHAM :—" Sir, the question put was with regard to mobile libraries. This is a specific question whether the Government have got any proposal to start mobile library units in the various districts? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, altogether too much reliance is placed on book knowledge. May I ask for a little less of enthusiasm in this matter? We can go on improving without these mobile libraries."

Sri T. VISWANATHAM :—" In that case may I ask the Hon. Minister to appoint a committee to eliminate quite a good number of books, say 50 per cent, from circulation altogether? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" If the hon. Member, Mr. Viswanatham will co-operate, I would most cordially do it."

Sri P. RAMAMURTHI :—" Will the Hon. Minister also think of closing down schools as schools impart book knowledge? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" My attempt will be that schools give more than and other than book knowledge."